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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DRC-01 /057 W
---------- 021472
R 171600Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5984
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJECT: REACTION TO CGIL ADMISSION TO ETUC

REF: BRUSSELS 5034

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1. THE ADMISSION OF THE CGIL INTO THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CON-

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FEDERATION HAS, IN GENERAL, BEEN TAKEN IN STRIDE HERE. ONLY SOME IN THE CISL MINORITY HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN, AND EVEN THEY DO NOT SEEM EXCESSIVELY PUT OUT. BOTH PAOLO SARTORI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CISL'S AGRICULTURAL WORKERS UNION, AND CARLO BORRINI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CHRISTIAN WORKERS MOVEMENT, HAVE TOLD US THIS DEVELOPMENT MAKES MORE DIFFICULT THE TASK OF WEANING CISL AWAY FROM ITS PRESENT TREND TOWARD EVER CLOSER COOPERATION WITH THE CGIL. THEY FEEL, TOO, THAT THE CGIL WILL, BY VIRTUE OF ITS SIZE, IN-EVITABLY TEND TO BECOME THE INTERNATIONAL SPOKESMAN FOR ITALIAN LABOR.

2. CISL SECRETARY GENERAL BRUNO STORTI HAD MADE CGIL ENTRY INTO THE ETUC A MAJOR PERSONAL OBJECTIVE. HE THEREFORE IS UNDERSTANDABLY SATISFIED WITH THE RESULT. MRS. BADUEL, CISL INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY, JUST PRIOR TO DEPARTING FOR THE MEETING WHICH RESULTED IN CGIL ADMISSION, ASKED THE LABOR ATTACHE TO WISH HER LUCK, SAY-ING THAT SHE HAD WORKED FOUR YEARS FOR CGIL ENTRY. THE UIL HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT LESS ENTHUSIASTIC, BUT ALL EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT SECRETARY GENERAL RAFFAELE VANNI HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED CGIL MEMBERSHIP WITHIN ETUC COUNCILS.

3. BOTH STORTI AND VANNI HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED BY THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN, AND COMMITMENT TOWARD, EFFECTING LABOR UNITY IN ITALY AMONG THE THREE MAJOR CONFEDERATIONS. STORTI HAS CONSISTENTLY CLAIMED THAT THE ADMISSION TO THE ETUC OF THE CGIL WOULD HAVE A "DEMOCRAT-IZING" EFFECT UPON THE LATTER, FURTHER WEANING IT FROM ASSOCIATION WITH THE WFTU AND ITS AFFILIATES. BADUEL INDICATES THAT STORTI AND THOSE LIKE-MINDED IN CISL ARE VERY WROTH WITH THE DGB FOR HAVING TRIED TO THROW ITS WEIGHT AROUND ON THIS ISSUE AFTER THERE HAD BEEN AGREEMENT THAT "DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES" WOULD PREVAIL.

4. ITALIAN SPONSORS OF CGIL MEMBERSHIP, SUCH AS CISL SECRETARY PIERRE CARNITI, CLAIM THERE IS NO INCLINATION TO CO-OPT THE CGT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, UNLESS, OF COURSE, THE CGT "MEEETS ALL THE CONDITIONS SUCCESSFULLY MET BY THE CGIL." THEY ARE EVEN MORE INSISTENT THAT THERE IS NO THOUGHT OF EXTENDING ETUC MEMBERSHIP TO THE COMPANY UNIONS OF EASTERN EUROPE.

5. COMMENT: THE RELATIVE EQUANIMITY WITH WHICH CGIL MEMBERSHIP
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IN THE ETUC HAS BEEN RECEIVED HERE DERIVES FROM THE FACT THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS LONG SEEMED ASSURED, AND BECAUSE NOT THAT MUCH ATTENTION IS PAID HERE IN ANY EVENT TO INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEVELOP-MENTS. DOUBTLESS, STORTI'S STANDING, BOTH WITHIN CISL AND THE FEDERATION CGIL-CISL-UIL (CCU), HAS BEEN ENHANCED BY THIS DEVELOP-MENT, VIZ., HE PROMISED A CERTAIN RESULT AND DELIVERED IT. AS TO THE ASSURANCES OFFERED WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE ETUC MEMBERSHIP BY THE CGT OR EAST EUROPEAN ORGANIZATIONS, TIME WILL TELL. THERE

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WILL, OF COURSE, BE NO COMPELLING MOTIVATION STEMMING FROM THE CISL OR UIL, AND IT MAY BE THAT CGIL INCLINATIONS IN THAT DIRECTION, IF ANY, WILL BE TEMPERED BY DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS, I.E., AN UNWILLINGNESS TO ROCK THE BOAT WITHIN THE CCU ON WHICH AN ISSUE, AT LEAST FOR SOME TIME. VOLPE

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